

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 05169 151024Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----065806 151405Z /42

R 141324Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7246  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5169

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UR, US, XF, IS  
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH KUZNETSOV ON MIDDLE EAST

REF: MOSCOW 9875

1. EMBASSY (DCM) BRIEFED MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL SASSON JULY 13 ON SUBSTANCE OF KUZNETSOV-TOON DISCUSSION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AS SET FORTH IN REFTEL. SASSON, WHO HAD HADASS OF THE RESEARCH DIVISION AND BAVLI OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION WITH HIM, EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE DETAILS OF THE EXCHANGE AND SAID THAT HE HOPED THE ISRAELIS WOULD BE INFORMED OF FUTURE SIMILAR EXERCISES.

2. ON JULY 14 BAVLI TELEPHONED THE DCM TO SAY THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO POINT OUT THAT ONE OF THE STATEMENTS OF AMBASSADOR TOON DID NOT CORRECTLY REPRESENT THE ISRAELI POSITION. HE SAID THAT HE WAS REFERRING TO THAT PORTION OF THE CONVERSATION REPORTED IN THE FIRST  
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TWO SENTENCES IN PARA 6 CONCERNING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE PLO. THE FORMULATION IN THE SECOND SENTENCE, NAMELY, THAT THE ISRAELIS WANT THE SECNOND SENTENCE, NAMELY, THAT THE ISRAELIS WANT THE PLO TO CHANGE ITS CHARTER AS WELL AS TO ADHERE TO RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, IS NOT THE ISRAELI POSITION. THIS WAS, BAVLI SAID, THE POSITION WHICH SECRETARY

VANCE HAD PUT FORWARD DURING HIS FEBRUARY VISIT IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH THEN FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON. THE DCM ASKED WHETHER THEN WE WERE TO UNDERSTAND THAT ISRAEL DID NOT WANT THE PLO TO CHANGE ITS CHARTER. BAVLI CAREFULLY LIMITED HIMSELF TO REPLYING THAT THIS WAS "NOT A CONDITION" POSED BY ISRAEL, LEAVING THE CLEAR IMPLICATION THAT THIS "CONDITION" COULD ONLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE U.S.

3. COMMENT: THE FACT THAT THE ISRAELIS WISH TO REGISTER THEIR VIEWS ON THE ISSUE OF PLO-GOI RELATIONS AT THIS TIME IS OF INTEREST AND WORTHY OF FURTHER EXPLORATION. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THE RABIN GOVERNMENT NEVER OFFERED TO SOFTEN ITS DISREGARD FOR THE PLO IN THE EVENT OF REVISIONS IN THE PALESTINIAN CHARTER. AT THIS POINT, IT IS AN OPEN QUESTION AS TO HOW THE BEGIN GOVERNMENT WILL HANDLE THIS ISSUE. JUDGING FROM BEGIN'S OFT-STATED REMARK THAT "WE ARE NOT ASKING THE SO-CALLED PLO TO RECOGNIZE OUR RIGHT TO EXIST," IT WOULD SEEM UNLIKELY THAT HE WILL BE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN RABIN WAS. OF COURSE, THIS WILL NOT INHIBIT ISRAELI OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS, UP TO AND INCLUDING THE PRIME MINISTER, FROM MAKING USE OF THE CHARTER FOR DEBATING PURPOSES. FOR EXAMPLE, BEGIN READ SEVERAL ARTICLES OF IT TO CODEL HAMILTON LAST WEEK.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION, DEBRIEFINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, PBOR, PDEV, MPOL, UR, US, IS, PLO, (TOON, MALCOLM), (KUZNETSOV)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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